

Remarks

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action dated as mailed January 30, 2007 and the documents cited therewith. After the above-amendments have been made, the present application contains claims 1, 4-7, 9, 11-16, 18, 20-24, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 40, 41, and 43-45. Claims 1, 5-7, 11-16, 18, 21-23, 27, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 40, 41, 44, and 45 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 8, 10, 17, 19, 25, 26, 29, 31, 34, 37, 39, and 42 have been canceled.

Specification

The present application was filed electronically using software provided by the USPTO. This is the first time Applicant's attorney has encountered this problem of the font size being too large for comfortable reading. A substitute specification excluding the claims is submitted with this Response in which the title is amended to be more clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed and the font size has been set to 12. The substitute specification contains no new matter.

Claim Objections

Claims 3, 5, 8, 11, 13, 18, 19, 27, 28-31, 36-39, 42 and 45 were objected to for various informalities. These claims have been amended or deleted to correct for any informalities. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to any of these claims remaining in the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19-21, 23, 24, 27, 32, 33, 35, 40, 41, 43, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0088520 by Bohrer et al. (hereinafter "Bohrer"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Turning initially to the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, claim 1 has been amended to recite:

“tagging restricted or personal information in a content object to distinguish the restricted or personal information from an unrestricted portion of the object content; defining the content object to include the unrestricted portion of the object content in a mark-up language and a link to the restricted or personal information...”

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Bohrer of these features as recited in claim 1. In paragraph [0031] of Bohrer, Bohrer merely teaches using a web browser to set up one or more privacy policies by specifying authorization rules and Bohrer does not teach or suggest tagging restricted or personal information in a content object to distinguish the restricted or personal information from an unrestricted portion of the object content as asserted in the Office Action.

Also, in paragraph [0017] of Bohrer, Bohrer teaches allowing a data subject to express privacy reference policies for controlling access to their personal data that is distributed across multiple enterprises and repositories, but Bohrer does not teach or suggest defining the content object to include the unrestricted portion of the object content in a mark-up language and a link to the restricted or personal information as provided by the present invention as recited in amended claim 1.

Additionally, claim 1 has been amended to recite:

“parsing the content object to separate privacy preferences or other restriction preferences of an author or owner of the content object from the content object and to provide access to the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences in response to the content object being collected to satisfy a request; and distributing the content object based on the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences.”

The Office Action cited paragraph [0033] of Bohrer for teaching the feature of parsing privacy preferences or other restriction preferences which was recited in claim 10, now canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in paragraph [0033] of Bohrer of parsing the content object to separate privacy preferences or other restriction preferences from the content object as provided by the present invention as recited in independent claim 1. For all of the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over Bohrer, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of independent claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Turning now to the rejection of claims 4, 6, 9, 12, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, these claims recite additional features which further patentably distinguish over Bohrer. Additionally, these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1. Because of this dependency, these claims contain all of the features of independent claim 1. Accordingly, these are also submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection of these claims is respectfully solicited.

Turning now to the rejection of independent claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, claim 15 has been amended to recite:

“deleting or replacing private or restricted information with default or generic information in response to the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences being inconsistent with the content provider’s policies, wherein the content provider collects the content object and has access to the private or restricted information;

repackaging the content object in response to deleting or replacing the private or restricted information; and

distributing the repacked content object to a requester without the private or restricted information.”

Independent claim 15 has been amended to include some of the features of dependent claim 17 and dependent claim 17 has been canceled. Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bohrer and view of U.S. Patent 5,960,080 to Fahlman et al. (hereinafter “Fahlman”). Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Bohrer and Fahlman that their teachings may be combined so as to provide the present invention as recited in amended claim 15 and such motivation only comes from Applicant’s disclosure. This approach constitutes impermissible hindsight and must be avoided. Bohrer teaches a system, method and business methods for enforcing privacy preferences on personal-data exchanges across a network. As indicated in the Abstract of Bohrer, a receiving process receives a request message from a data-requestor. The request message may have one or more requests for private data and a requestor privacy statement for each respective private data requested. A release process compares the requestor privacy statement to the subject constraints or authorization rules for releasing the private data. The private data will only be released in response to the requestor privacy statement satisfying the subject constraints or authorization

rules. In contrast, Fahlman teaches preparing an original confidential message as shown in block 101 of Figure 1. Sensitive information is automatically identified in block 103 and replaced with tokens in block 105 of Figure 1 of Fahlman to produce a sanitized message. The sanitized message is then sent for performing an untrusted service in block 107. The untrusted service may be a translation service, or a grammar checking or style checking service as described in Column 5, lines 4-7 of Fahlman. In block 111 the sanitized message to which the untrusted service has been performed is merged with the sensitive information and the final confidential message is delivered to the recipient in block 113. Applicant respectfully submits that the original confidential message is prepared knowing that the message will be transmitted to a authorized or trusted data recipient and that the message is sanitized for sending to the untrusted service. Accordingly, there is no need in Fahlman for creating authorization rules or comparing authorization rules to a requestor's privacy statement in order to release private data as provided by Bohrer. Moreover, Fahlman teaches away from Bohrer in that the sensitive or private information is merged back with the sanitized message and sent to the recipient or data requestor. In Bohrer the sensitive or private data is not sent or released unless the requestor's privacy statement matches the authorization rules for release of the private data. Accordingly, a person of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Bohrer and Fahlman. Even if it were proper to combine the teachings of Bohrer and Fahlman, they still would not provide the present invention as recited in amended claim 15. Claim 15 recites:

“deleting or replacing private or restricted information with default or generic information in response to the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences being inconsistent with the content provider's policies, wherein the content provider collects the content object and has access to the private or restricted information...”

In contrast, in Fahlman, there is no distinction between the author or owner of the content object and the content provider. The assertion in the Office Action with respect to the rejection of claim 17 that the untrusted service indicates a disparity in privacy and restriction preferences between the author and provider is incorrect because there is no distinction between the author and provider in Fahlman and the only disparity and reason for replacing the sensitive information with tokens is that the service to be performed on the sanitized message is an untrusted service in Fahlman. Applicant respectfully submits that the author or owner of the content object and

content provider of the present invention as recited in claim 15 are both distinguishable from the untrusted service of Fahlman.

Claim 15 has also been amended to recite:

“repackaging the content object in response to deleting or replacing the private or restricted information; and
distributing the repacked content object to a requester without the private or restricted information.” (emphasis added)

In contrast, Fahlman teaches merging the sensitive information and the sanitized message after performance of the untrusted service and delivering the final confidential message to the recipient. Accordingly, Fahlman does not teach or suggest distributing the repackaged content object to a requestor without the private or restricted information as provided by the present invention as recited in amended claim 15. For all of the reasons discussed above, claim 15 is submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman, whether considered individually or combined, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 is respectfully requested.

Turning now to the rejection of claims 16, 20, and 21, these claims recite additional features which further patentably distinguish over Bohrer and Fahlman. For example, claim 21 recites: “parsing the content object to separate the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences from an unrestricted portion of the content object.” As previously discussed, Bohrer does not teach or suggest parsing the content object to separate the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences from an unrestricted portion of the content object. Paragraph [0033] of Bohrer which was cited in rejecting claim 21 recites:

“...the system must provide several different functionalities, including the ability to set up profiles, define authorization rules and privacy controls, send and handle request for data, authenticate requestors, authorize release of data based on authorization rules and privacy policy matching and release data, etc.”

Applicant respectfully submits that Bohrer says nothing about parsing the content object as provided by the present invention as recited in dependent claim 21. Additionally, claims 16, 20, and 21 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 15. Because of this dependency, these claims contain all of the features of independent claim 15. Therefore, claims

16, 20, and 21 are submitted to also be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman, whether considered individually or combined, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of independent claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, claim 23 has been amended to recite:

“a privacy function operable on the server to access privacy preferences or other restriction preferences of an author or owner of the content object and to compare the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences to a content provider’s policies, wherein the privacy function deletes or replaces private or restricted information with default or generic information in response to the privacy preferences or restriction preferences being inconsistent with the content provider’s policies, and wherein the privacy function repackages the content object in response to deleting or replacing the private or other restricted information; and

a collection function operable on the server to distribute the repackaged content object to the requester without the private or restricted information.”

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Bohrer nor Fahlman teach or suggest the privacy function and the collection function as recited in amended claim 23. As previously discussed, the untrusted service of Fahlman does not indicate a disparity in privacy and restriction preferences between a content object author and a content provider as suggested in the Office Action. The disparity in Fahlman only lies in the fact that the confidential message is sanitized so that an untrusted service can be preformed on the sanitized message which has had the sensitive information replaced with tokens. There is no teaching or suggestion in Fahlman of a disparity between privacy or other restriction preferences between an author of a content object and a content provider.

Additionally, as previously discussed Fahlman teaches that the sanitized message is merged with the sensitive information which is sent to the recipient or requestor as clearly indicated in Figures 1 and 2 of Fahlman. Accordingly, Fahlman does not teach or suggest a collection function operable on the server to distribute the repackaged content object to the requestor without the private or restricted information as provided by the present invention as recited in independent claim 23. Further, Bohrer only releases the private data in response to the requestor’s privacy statement satisfying the subject constraints or authorization rules as indicated

in the abstract of Bohrer. In contrast, the present invention as recited in claim 23 compares the privacy policies of the author or owner to those of the content provider and is unconcerned with the requester's privacy statement or policies as in Bohrer. Accordingly, independent claim 23 as amended is submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman, whether considered individually or combined, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 23 is respectfully solicited.

Regarding the rejection of claim 24 and 27, these claims recite additional features which further patentably distinguish over Bohrer and Fahlman. Additionally, these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 23. Because of this dependency, these claims contain all of the features of claim 23. Therefore, claims 24 and 27 are respectfully submitted to also be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully solicited.

Turning now to the rejection of independent claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, claim 32 has been amended to recite similar features to independent claim 23. Accordingly, claim 32 is respectfully submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman for the same reasons as discussed with respect to independent claim 23. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 32 is respectfully requested.

With respect to the rejection of claims 33 and 35, these claims depend directly from independent claim 32 and by virtue of that dependency contain all of the features of claim 32. Therefore, claims 33 and 35 are also submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claim 40 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, claim 40 has been amended to recite similar features to independent claim 15. Therefore, claim 40 is submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman for the same reasons as discussed with respect to claim 15. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 40 is therefore solicited.

Regarding the rejection of claims 41, 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bohrer, these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim

40, and by virtue of that dependency contain all of the features of claim 40. Therefore, these claims are submitted to also be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to these claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3, 5, 7, 11, 18, 22, 28-30, 36-38, and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bohrer and in further view Wikipedia.org's definitions for 'XLink', 'Java Servlet', and 'P3P'. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Regarding the rejection of claims 5, 7, and 11, these claims have been amended to delete reference to 'XLink', 'Java Servlet' and 'P3P'. Additionally, these claims recite additional features which further patentably distinguish over Bohrer and the on-line Wikipedia encyclopedia. For example, claim 5 recites:

“storing the restricted or personal information in a different location from the content object; and
providing access to the restricted or personal information via the link, wherein the link comprises a secure connection.”

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Bohrer that the restricted or personal information is stored in a different location from the content object.

Claim 11 recites: “locating or accessing the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences using another link.” Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Bohrer or the on-line Wikipedia encyclopedia of locating or accessing the privacy preferences or other restriction preferences using another link as provided by the present invention as recited in claim 11. Furthermore, claims 5, 7, and 11 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1. Because of this dependency, these claims contain all of the features of independent claim 1. Therefore, these claims are submitted to also be patentably distinguishable over the documents or record, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bohrer in view of the on-line Wikipedia encyclopedia, these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 15, and by virtue of that dependency, contain all of the features of claim 15. Therefore, claims 18 and 22 are submitted to be patentably

distinguishable over the documents of record, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully solicited.

With respect to the rejection of claims 28 and 30, these claims have been amended to patentably distinguish over Bohrer and the Wikipedia encyclopedia. Additionally, these claims depend directly from independent claim 23, and by virtue of that dependency contain all of the features of independent claim 23. Applicant respectfully submits that the on-line Wikipedia encyclopedia adds nothing to the teachings of Bohrer or Fahlman so as to render independent claim 23 unpatentable. Therefore, claims 28 and 30 are also submitted to be patentably distinguishable over the documents of record, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 28 and 30 is respectfully requested.

Turning now to the rejection of claims 36, 38 and 45, these claims have been amended to distinguish over the on-line Wikipedia encyclopedia. Additionally, claims 36 and 38 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 32 and claim 45 depends indirectly from independent claim 40. As previously discussed, the on-line Wikipedia website adds nothing to the teachings of Bohrer and Fahlman so as to render independent claims 32 and 40 unpatentable. Accordingly, claims 36, 38 and 45 are submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer, Fahlman and the Wikipedia website, whether considered individually or combined, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 36, 38 and 45 is respectfully solicited.

Claims 14, 17, 25, 26, 34 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bohrer et al. and further in view of Fahlman. As previously discussed, a person of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Bohrer and Fahlman because Bohrer teaches releasing private data to a requestor only if the requestor privacy statement satisfies the subject constraints or authorization rules for release of the private data as indicated in the abstract of Bohrer. In contrast, Fahlman intends to send the private or confidential data or message to a recipient. However, Fahlman wants to perform a service on the message by an untrusted service provider. Accordingly, Fahlman teaches replacing the sensitive information with tokens and then transmitting a sanitized message to the untrusted service as indicated in Figure 1 of Fahlman. Fahlman then merges the sanitized message after performing the untrusted service with the sensitive information and delivers the final message to the recipient

as indicated in blocks 111 and 113 of Fahlman. Accordingly, there is no reason in Fahlman to compare a requestor privacy statement to subject constraints or authorization rules for release of private data as provided by Bohrer. The message created by Fahlman is intended to be sent to the recipient with the sensitive or private data however, the confidential information must be sanitized in order to perform the untrusted service and then merged back with the sensitive information for sending to the recipient or data requestor. Additionally, there is no reason in Bohrer to replace the private information with tokens because Bohrer teaches that the private data is not released unless the requestor's privacy statement matches the authorization rules of the content provider. Bohrer does not teach or suggest comparing the privacy policies of the content provider and the author or owner of the content object as provided by the present invention as recited in the claims. Accordingly, a person of skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Bohrer and Fahlman.

Even if it were proper to combine the teachings of Bohrer and Fahlman, they still would not provide the present invention as recited in the claims. Claim 14 recites similar features to independent claim 15. Additionally, claim 14 depends indirectly from independent claim 1, and by virtue of this dependency contains all of the features of independent claim 1. Accordingly, for all of the reasons discussed with respect to the rejection of claim 1 and claim 15, claim 14 is submitted to be patentably distinguishable over Bohrer and Fahlman, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 14 is respectfully solicited.

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Amdt. dated April 24, 2007
Reply to Office Action of January 30, 2007

Attorney Docket No. 014682-000007

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims at the earliest possible date are respectfully requested.

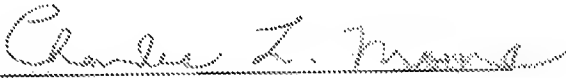
If the Examiner has any questions about the present Amendment or anticipates finally rejecting any claim of the present application, a telephone interview is requested.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4365.

Respectfully submitted,

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